

Jenny Parker, Petition to Remain in Virginia, 1813

To the hon^{ble} the Senate & House of Representatives of Virginia

The petition of Jenny (also Jenny) Parker humbly sheweth that your petitioner was from an early period of her life the servant of Josiah Wilson dec^d late of Surry County and having during his life serv^d him faithfully he at his death which happened on the day of December 1812. In consideration of the faithful and correct conduct of your petitioner by his last will and testament emancipated and set free the said Jenny your petitioner; but she is advised that notwithstanding the said emancipation in the said will contained she cannot remain and enjoy her freedom in her native state without subjecting her self to the penalty of those laws enacted by the Legislature of Virginia prohibiting the emancipation of Slaves unless it be by the special permission of the Legislature. She therefore prays that your honorable body will take her case into consideration and make for her the necessary provisions to enable her to ~~remain~~ reside and live in her native state. She further begs leave to state

Citation: Petition of Jenny Parker, Surry County, 1813, Legislative Petitions Digital Collection, Library of Virginia.

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that all her children and friends reside in the County of Surry. And its immediate neighbourhood. And that one of her children has been long since emancipated. And is possessed of both real and personal estate, owning as slaves two of your petitioner's children. Your petitioner being advanced in years & believing in the ordinary course of things that she cannot long continue to live, and deeming it oppressive at her advanced period of life to be compelled to desert her Native State children and friends to seek a residence in some to her unknown quarter of our Country, she hopes that from the reasons herein before set forth and the annexed Certificates proving the consent of your petitioner, which is signed by all the children of her late Mother Josiah Welton the boon which she asks of the Legislature of her Native State will be obtained and she as in duty bound will ever pray -

We Certify that we have long known Jennie (also Jenny Parker) and have no hesitation in saying that the contents of her petition is correct and further we well ~~as~~ recollect that it was the particular wish of our de. Father Josiah Welton that she should retain her freedom & continue to reside ^{with} in the State of Virginia, ~~with~~ her daughters who has been

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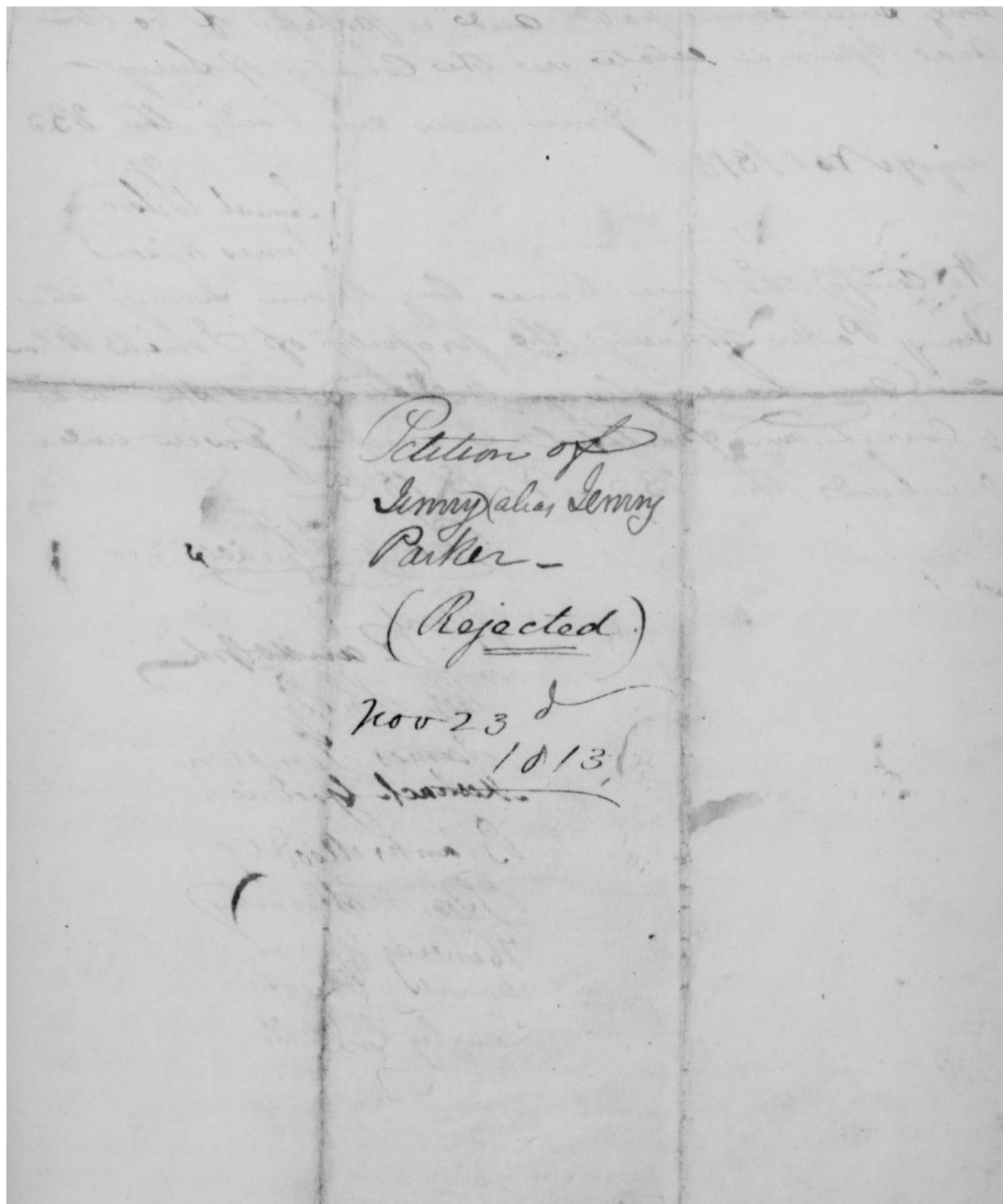
long since emancipated and is possessed of both
 real & personal estate in the County of Surry -
 Given under our hands this 23^d
 day of Nov 1813
 John Wilson
 Samuel Wilson
 James Wilson

We Certify that we have long known Jenny (as
 Jenny Parker) formerly the property of Louis Wilson
 and have always understood that she was
 a correct and faithful servant - Given under
 our hands this 23^d Nov 1813 -

Charles D. Graves
 Wm. Randolph
 Thos. Shelly
 James Simpson
 Nathaniel Goodrich
 Blanks Moody
 Peter T. Spradley
 Henry Lyall
 Burrwell Perdue
 Langley C. Wille

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